

NATIONAL Fun-filled day at the aviary

Text and photos by
Samira Kawar
Special to the Jordan Times

IF YOU are at a loss for a carefree, educational activity to keep your children safely amused on a free morning or afternoon, a visit to the aviary in Shmeisani may be in order.

As one steps into the Bird Garden after buying entry tickets (100 fils for adults and 50 fils for children) the chirping, croaking and squeaking of 30 kinds of birds can be heard.

The 15 bird cages are situated around the spacious 11,000 square metre garden, which has neat paths and flower beds, with lots of open space in between. A large fenced-in clearing will soon be turned into a children's playground, Manager Bahjat Yahya Dabit told the Jordan Times.

Swings, merry-go-rounds, seesaws and a sand bed will be installed to enable the children to have a good time for several hours without "resorting to mischief which might harm them," he said. A stand will also be installed to sell sandwiches and soft drinks at reasonable prices, he added.

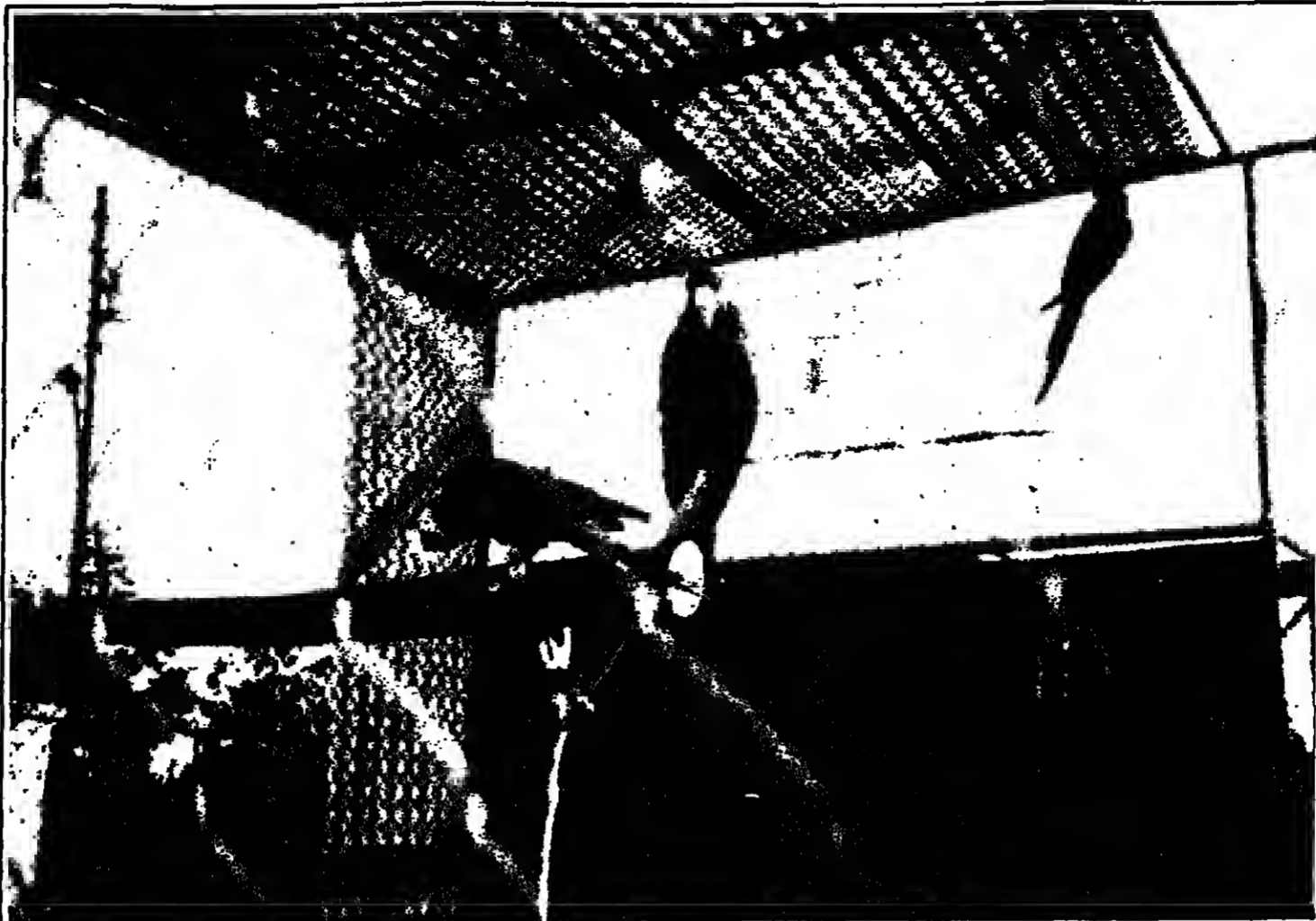
Mr. Dabit said that the aviary,

established in July 1979, and run since then by Amman Municipality, was originally intended to be a zoo. It was, however, impossible to find a suitable location that would accommodate a zoo within Amman's city limits and the cost was very expensive, so the more modest idea of an aviary was adopted, he said.

Like a proud father speaking of his children, Mr. Dabit described the 30 kinds of birds, which number between 250 to 300 (depending on the time of year), under his care in the aviary. The particular kinds of species present in the aviary were chosen "for their beauty and because they are seed-eaters" — except, that is, for the carnivorous vultures, chosen because they are an indigenous species.

The aviary boasts several kinds of parrots: green amazons, Alexandrian parakeets, ring-necked parakeets, love-birds, hudgegirs and macaws.

Beautiful black swans with long graceful necks and red beaks are to be seen calmly floating in an



Colourful parakeets gambol in their cage at the Shmeisani aviary

artificially-built pond, and half a dozen ducks rub quacking towards the fence in the hope of receiving breadcrumbs and morsels of food from visitors.

One large cage contains two beautiful black, gold-specked

crowned cranes, demouelle cranes and white storks.

Another contains several peacocks, which to the disappointment of many visitors do not spread their magnificently coloured feathers in the autumn because their feathers undergo a natural process of shedding and regrowth during this season. Mr. Dabit said that many visitors do not know this, and had severely criticised the aviary for "neglecting the birds and keeping them puny."

The sacred ibis has to be housed in a separate cage because it can eat the eggs of other species of birds before they have hatched, Mr. Dabit explained.

The smaller variety of very colourful and chirping birds include canaries, Java sparrows, cutthroats, golden finches and bulbuls (also known as Persian nightingales).

All of these varieties were obtained by special order from England. The aviary's collection also includes a young Ostrich, which is already about two metres tall, presented as a gift by Her Majesty Queen Noor.

Other species such as domestic fowls were locally obtained, Mr. Dabit said. These include chickens, turkeys, partridges and doves, some of which he brought from his uncle's backyard. The sandgrouse were hatched from eggs that he collected from the desert in February while the birds were flying over Jordan.

Many of the smaller birds have increased in number while at the aviary, some nesting and hatching their eggs in the cages — a sign that the birds have become very well-acclimatised to their environments in the aviary, Mr. Dabit said. Some of the eggs are artificially hatched in the aviary's incubators, he added.

Mr. Dabit is assisted by four gardeners and a worker who is responsible for feeding the birds, cleaning their cages and adjacent rooms and shelters and changing the water in the cages. None of them have received any formal training in bird care, but Mr. Dabit is hopeful that some of the staff might one day get the opportunity of some formal instruction in bird-care, either locally, or abroad.

However, Mr. Dabit stresses that what really counts when feeding birds is practical knowledge and experience in what each kind of bird eats. Seeds are purchased

locally, along with vegetables and fruits such as bananas, apples and oranges which the parrots like to eat. The ostrich, which is still young, needs to eat mashed boiled eggs for calcium, Mr. Dabit explained.

The same trays are always used for each cage, and are thoroughly washed with soap and water after each meal, so that hygiene standards remain high and infectious diseases are prevented from spreading amongst the birds.

A veterinarian visits the aviary once a week to give the birds a check-up and treat any birds that may be sick or injured in fights with each other. Sick birds are immediately isolated to avoid passing on disease to healthy birds, Mr. Dabit said.

The aviary is visited by an average of 100 people a day, if calculations are made on an annual basis, Mr. Dabit said. Most of the visitors are parents with their children, school children and kindergarten classes accompanied by their teachers.

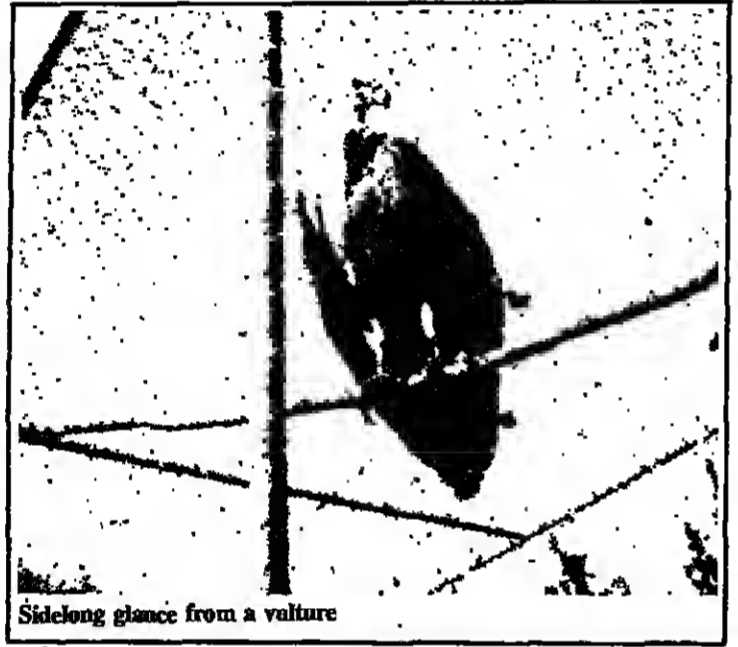
Unfortunately, most visitors do not comply with the regulations not to frighten the birds with loud noises, not to feed the birds and not to go beyond the barriers that surround the cages, in spite of the many notices and signs that clearly state these instructions, Mr. Dabit ruefully said. He recalled how one of the nests containing a small canary was once pushed off a branch by a stick stuck through the mesh surrounding the cage by one of the children. The little canary fell onto the ground, was rejected by its mother, and subsequently died.

Besides the crass cruelty involved by such ignorant practices, the financial loss is considerable, since the birds are valuable and expensive. The consignment of birds ordered from England cost no less than £3,000, while the Egyptian vultures are estimated by Mr. Dabit to be worth JD. 800.

The public is also not mindful of keeping the flowerbeds at the aviary in good shape. Mr. Dabit said that he had planted 1,000 gladioli shoots in front of the cages when the aviary first opened, but because visitors had ignored instructions not to step on the flowerbeds in front of the cages, only 10 of these had survived.

Another problem arises with the two monkey cages in the aviary. One of these contains small baboons which are very wild and can inflict dangerous bites on children who poke their fingers into the cages. In spite of instructions not to get too near to the cages and to keep children away from them, visitors continue to provoke the monkeys and poke their fingers through the wire mesh surrounding the cage. Mr. Dabit is actually contemplating the removal of the monkey cages "before a serious accident occurs."

In spite of these difficulties, Mr. Dabit always welcomes visitors with a smiling face and loves to see the children enjoying the birds in the aviary. He goes round the aviary, inspecting the cages and calls the birds by name. Often, he says, some of the parrots that talk answer him, usually with shrill swear words and curses. "They pick up these words more easily, it seems," he laughingly said.



Sidelong glance from a vulture



Youths defy regulations to approach the birds' cages (Photos by Samira Kawar)

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SPORTS

Karpov retains world chess title

Korchnoi gives up quest for crown

MERANO, Nov. 20 (R) — World chess champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union retained his title for the next three years with a sixth and final win over challenger Viktor Korchnoi today.

Korchnoi, in a hopeless position, resigned in a telephone call to chief arbiter Paul Klein without resuming play in the adjourned 18th game of the championship duel here.

Karpov, champion since 1975, kept his crown by an easy 6-2 margin in the shortest match of International Chess Federation history. He became the first player to defend the title twice successfully since Mikhail Botvinnik, also of the Soviet Union, in 1951 and 1954.

Korchnoi's resignation was later confirmed in a letter signed by the challenger and delivered to the chief arbiter.

Challenger to U.S. world champion Bobby Fischer.

After quitting the Soviet Union and accusing the chess authorities there of bias towards the younger player, Korchnoi won the right to challenge Karpov in 1978.

But he lost the match in the Philippines 6-5 in a struggle lasting a record 93 days.

He later overcame many of the world's best players to challenge Karpov again.

But Korchnoi's hopes for a repeat of the drama in the Philippines, when the challenger clawed his way back to within a hair's breadth of victory after being 5-2 down, were disappointed.

Korchnoi made a disastrous start, losing three of the first four games and putting Karpov half way to victory in just over a week.

The later stages of the match were more evenly contested and two wins by the challenger briefly revived the hopes of his supporters.

But an unruffled Karpov kept his nerve under pressure and it was Korchnoi who cracked in the final game, playing hesitantly, refusing to stay seated at the board when he was in time trouble and

unable to find defenses against the champion's simple but insistent attack.

"It is not easy to play such a match," Korchnoi said in the closing stages of his 1978 duel.

"In three years time, I think, my match for the title will not be interesting. But I will fight, as I am fighting now."

"The match was terribly one-sided," commented U.S. grandmaster Robert Byrne, a former championship candidate.

"The last game sums it up. He (Korchnoi) offered no resistance. He was beaten by normal play. He did not demand brilliance from Karpov and so we did not have to see Karpov at his best."

"How can anyone age so much the last six months — it doesn't make sense."

In contrast to the tensions of the battle three years ago, there were few off-the-board incidents and few complaints.

Korchnoi and his aides said repeatedly that the challenger was at a major psychological dis-

advantage.

"In every game Karpov had two extra pieces," a Korchnoi aide said. Korchnoi's wife Bella and his son Igor remain in the Soviet Union despite repeated requests for exit visas.

The jury was forced to intervene only once, when Korchnoi was officially warned for speaking angrily to Karpov in the 12th game.

Soviet officials said Karpov intentionally avoided such conflicts with the challenger.

"We wish to make the match as much as possible purely chess, Karpov versus Korchnoi," Alexander Roshal, the Soviet delegation spokesman, said after the 12th game incident.

Apart from the prestige of being confirmed as the world's finest chess player, Karpov's victory will bring Karpov a prize of 500,000 Swiss francs (\$280,000), to be awarded at a ceremony next Saturday.

Korchnoi's consolation prize is 300,000 francs (\$170,000).

France to stage European soccer

BERN, Switzerland, Nov. 20 (A.P.) — The organising committee for the European Soccer Championships for national teams has recommended staging of the final round in 1984 to France. The Union of European Football Associations announced today.

The recommendation given before the UEFA executive committee meeting in Zurich coming Dec. 10. The committee preferred

France over the three other candidates, West Germany, England and Greece, the former two because they had been awarded major sporting events already the same year, and Greece because it had provided insufficient information in its application, UEFA said.

It said a record 33 teams, all European countries except Liechtenstein, have entered the fifth European Soccer Championships. The draw for the preliminary round—eight teams to qualify for the finals—will probably take place in France early January.

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N.B. Applications for visas to Sweden should still, until further notice, be presented to the office of the Swedish Consul-General in Amman, Mr. Isam Bdeir, Building Mat. Co., Hashaimi Street, Amman.

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The Jordan Phosphate Mines Co., Ltd. announces that the closing date for tender 18F/81, "33KV distribution network for the residential complex at Al Hasa", will be 12 O'clock noon, Saturday 16-1-1982 instead of 12-12-1981.

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The Embassy is located in Shmeisani, on Khalil Joubran Street (behind the Alia Art Gallery).
Swedish Embassy

Lillee apologises for kicking Miandad

ADELAIDE, Nov. 20 (R) — Australian fast bowler Dennis Lillee, suspended for two matches for kicking Pakistan cricket captain Javed Miandad, apologised for the incident and said he thought now that 'the whole thing is over.'

Lillee added that he had been hasty in saying he might retire from cricket if he was suspended.

"I just want to play cricket and enjoy it," he said.

The incident which led to his suspension occurred during the first test in Perth on Monday. Millions of television viewers saw Lillee kick Javed after the Pakistani captain bumped into him when completing a run. Javed then appeared to threaten Lillee with his bat as an umpire intervened.

Lillee, 32, today stressed his regret for the incident. "I think it is over now... the whole thing is over. I just want to play cricket and enjoy it."

"It's been pretty traumatic. I am sorry about the whole incident for the bad example it set."

"I hope it never happens again. I just want to play cricket and forget about what happened."

Asked about his statement from Perth this week that he would retire if suspended, Lillee said: "It was a spur of the moment thing. A reporter came to see me early in the morning. I said in passing, and not in a threatening manner, that I would retire if I got suspended." Lillee also apologised to the Australian cricket board today.

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WEST	♠ Q 9 6 5 3	♥ 7	♦ Q 9 3 2	♣ A 9 7
EAST	♠ A 8 7	♥ 9 5 4	♦ J 10 8 4	♣ J 10 6 2
SOUTH	♠ 10 4 2	♥ K Q 6 3	♦ A K 6	♣ K 5 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1NT Pass 2♣ Pass
2♥ Pass 4♥ Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Three of ♣

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West led a low spade, and declarer played the jack—it was unlikely that West would be leading away from an ace into the no trump bidder's hand when he could not be sure that dummy would have more than one card in the suit led. East won the ace and shifted to a diamond. Since it was most improbable that East would lead a diamond from the queen, declarer placed West with that card. Therefore, he was faced with a diamond loser to go with the ace of spades, and the fate of the contract depended on whether declarer could limit his losers in clubs to one. That could be accomplished only via an end play.

Declarer drew trumps in three rounds, cashed the king of spades and king of diamonds, then ruffed a spade in dummy. Then he led the jack of diamonds from the table, forcing West to win with the queen.

West was down to three clubs and a diamond. If he led a diamond, he would give declarer a ruff-and-slush; if he led the ace of clubs, he was giving up. So West returned a low club. Having gone right so far, declarer was not going to slip at the last hurdle. He played low from dummy and won in hand with the king. A club to the queen made sure that he lost only one club trick, and thus, the contract was made.

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FEATURES

People in Lioni face second winter without homes

By Samuel Koo

ONI — Children bundled in ski caps and heavy sweaters blow their hands in unheated classrooms and their mothers wash their faces in cold water in this quake-devastated town east of Amman.

"Power lines were supposed to be connected in two weeks, but winter came too early," said an Abate, a teacher gathering work from the 32 children in a fifth grade class.

Nearly 300,000 survivors of the v. 23, 1980, earthquake are facing their second winter without permanent homes. The tent cities last winter have disappeared and thousands are still living in 1.8 to 3.6 metres metal campers or shacks. About 250 have been put on a ship docked in the bay of Amman.

In this town of 6,500, where 297 people died and 90 per cent of the town was flattened, rubble is piled everywhere and 70 per cent of the shops have not reopened.

A year after the quake battered the impoverished area at the ankle of the Italian boot, killing 2,775 people in nearly 100 cities, towns and villages, long-term reconstruction has not begun.

The government has resettled 40 per cent of the homeless in pre-

fabricated houses or trailers with heat and running water, and government officials say all the homeless will have prefabricated homes this winter.

There is the promise of substantial government help to rebuild their homes and stores.

Many townspeople say the lure of money — \$7.5 billion in reconstruction grants — has pitted friends against friends and neighbours against neighbours.

"Day and night, people argue about money — why they should get more than others. The atmosphere has been so poisoned that some people do not even talk to each other. It is terrible," says Giuseppe Montano, a furniture maker in Lioni.

Under a three-year plan ending in 1983, the government has promised to pay 75 per cent of the cost to rebuild homes, stores and other private buildings destroyed or damaged by the quake.

"The idea is to restore a home or a store to its original shape, but who knows what the original shape was, the records were lost in many places and besides, there's no point in trying to rebuild exactly what we had as if we are restoring an ancient monument," says Montano, president of the town's 200-member merchants association.

Alifano Gaetano, a schoolteacher, says town officials would not recognise a new balcony extension he had put in before the quake at more than four million lire (\$3,800). "Now they want receipts. Am I supposed to look through the rubble to find them?"

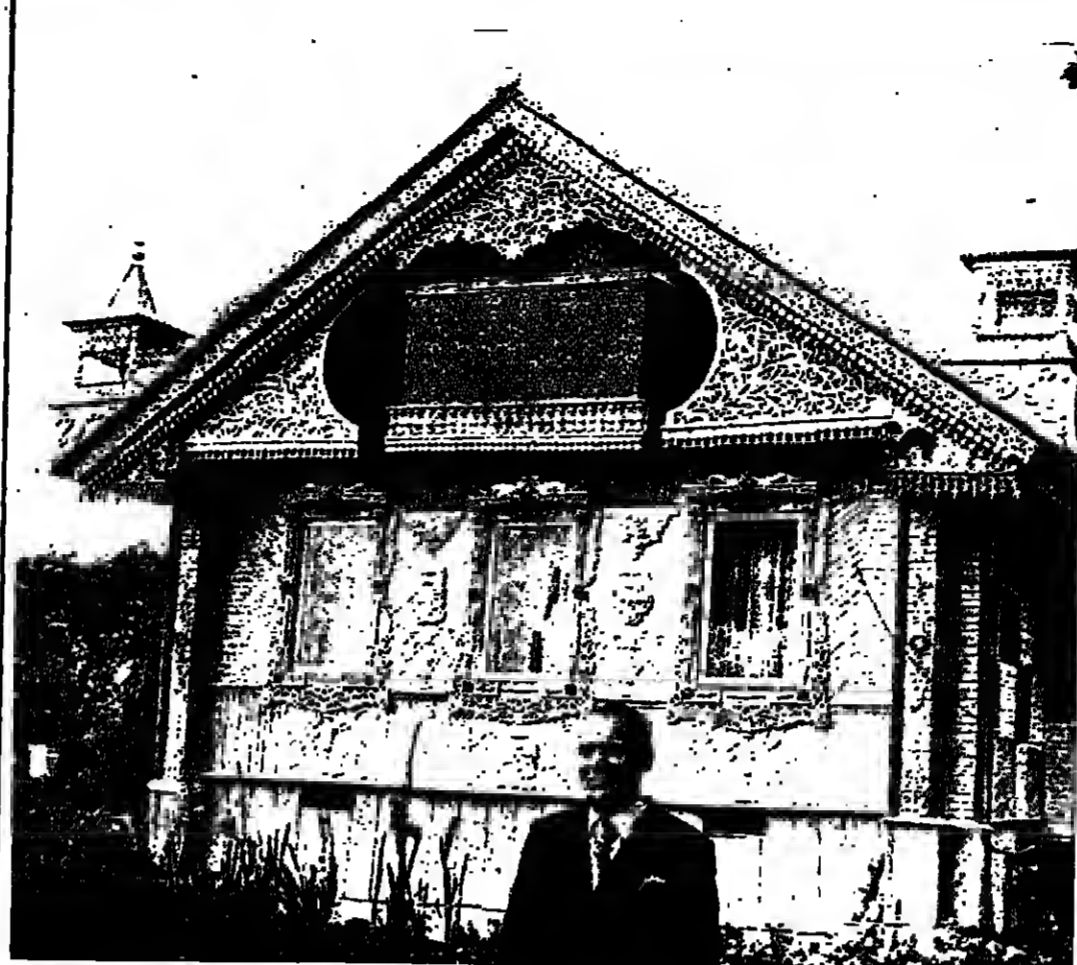
Magdalena Mennillo, the 54-year-old owner of one of the two restaurants which have reopened, says people often accuse each other of submitting exaggerated claims or bribing officials to get their applications accepted.

In nearby Sant' Angelo Dei Lombardi, a town of 6,000 almost completely destroyed by the quake, Mayor Rosanna Repole says she frequently hears charges of corruption.

"You cannot blame the people. They are depressed, broke and super-sensitive. You just have to try to explain how things work. I still live in a camper, and I'll be the last person to move into a prefabricated house," Repole said.

Overall, the "Terremotati," or quake victims, appear to have overcome the worst and there are signs that life is slowly returning to normal throughout the area east and south of Naples.

Amateur wood carver Leonid Kostitsyn



Many people spend their leisure time on various hobbies. Leonid Kostitsyn, a school teacher living in the village of Kukoboi, Yaroslavl Region, goes in for wood-carving. It was a tradition in old Russia to

decorate houses with wood-carved patterns and Kostitsyn decided to keep the old tradition alive. He decorated his house with a wonderful carved porch, platanids and small wooden towers.

Leonid Kostitsyn is a frequent participant in folk art exhibitions and was awarded many diplomas for his works. He lends his skill and love for old Russian traditions to his schoolchildren.

— Fotokhronika TASS

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Most of the homeless have moved into 25,000 prefabricated houses and trailer homes built by the government or donated by foreign governments. Thousands who still live in temporary shelters are also expected to take possession of prefabricated houses or trailer homes by the end of the year.

Artisans and farmers have resumed their work, although 70 per cent of shops remain closed.

Many of the town's people are without work and there are very few places they can go to relax or enjoy themselves, so they end up in bars or get together for drinking parties," says Enrico Marancio, a retired lawyer with houses in Sant' Angelo Dei Lombardi and Naples.

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THE ONE HE'S ALWAYS LATE TO!

Andy Capp

HOW IS IT GOIN' DEAR?

I DON'T KNOW ALL THAT MUCH ABOUT 'IM — HE SEEMS SO QUIET AN' MODEST

IN HIS CASE, THAT PROBABLY MEANS HE CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHIN' ELSE NICE TO SAY ABOUT HIMSELF

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, NOV. 21, 1981

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good day to extend your activities beyond present boundaries. A time to contact influential persons who are in a position to help you get ahead. Be more practical.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Make sensible plans for the future. Do whatever will make your loved one happier. Take time to improve your surroundings.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study ways to have increased abundance in the future. Consult experts for advice you need in a business transaction.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You have fine inventive ideas that should be presented to others without delay. Engage in hobby with congenials.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) A talk with a business expert could lead to financial security in the future. Relax at home tonight.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Personal interests should be uppermost on your mind today for gaining the happiness you seek. Attend a group affair tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get together with one who has much experience and gain the knowledge you need now. Pave the way for greater happiness.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Take time to improve our health and appearance. Joining an outside activity now can help you advance in your career.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Show more loyalty to those in high position and you can benefit greatly in the future. Improve your surroundings.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Go to the right source for the data you need in a new project you have in mind. Be fair in all your dealings.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Using your intuitive faculties will help you today in a business matter. Improve your relationships with associates.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Try to reach an agreement with one who opposes you. A new contact can give you valuable information you need.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have many chores to do now but do the most important first for best results. Follow the advice of a dynamic person.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she may need a little prodding to achieve the success that is in this chart. Direct the education along lines that will prepare your progeny for possible government work. Some religious training is advised.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by Fran Ragus

ACROSS

1 Over

5 Back of the leg

9 Labels

13 Excitement

14 Field to Caesar

15 Get along

17 Raw metals

18 Talk wildly

19 Sprang

20 Great work of art

23 Uncle Sp.

24 Great lake

25 Of a mountain range

27 Manager

30 Writer Bret

32 Come up

33 Countryside scene

37 Skin bump

38 Culls

39 Stripling

40 Epstein's field

43 Fetch

45 Bluish-gray

45 Like winter streets

47 Greek poet

50 "For — and bells our lives wa pay"

51 Small bill

52 Artist's tablets

58 Apportioned

'60 " — Goriot"

61 Embark

62 Lively frolic

63 Kind of school: abbr.

64 Volcanic mountain

65 Nicholais or Peter

66 Relaxation

67 Arab boat

26 Calendar abbr.

27 Adages

28 Foregoing: abbr.

29 Japanese aborigine

30 A Truman

31 Poker stake

33 Brute

34 " — which is half a truth..."

35 Breathe heavily

36 Nervous

38 Sharply outlined

41 Hallucination

42 — of Paris

43 Tell all

44 Rusted

46 Plan

47 Legumes

48 Ineffective

49 Comes close

50 Farm sections

53 Sword

54 Anatomical tissue

55 Vow

56 Theatre in Europe

57 Cabbage dish

59 Meadow

Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

SHIP FAULTS BLAR
CASA RUIPPE LORIE
ALAN DUTHER ACIA
DOWNY WIDIDIECKIE
SITENS BIANORIS
CIABOS APISPE EZIAK
DINAR SHIPS AZIAN
ATITE PITIS FEDITIA
LIANDIPAL SLEIT
SILIE GLOE
WESTERNTANIERIS
BIATA OCULO UTAR
EVER WALTER LULIO
NEWIT SAIDNA TITEN

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